

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/BR2004/000054

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B17/32 A61B17/00 A61B17/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3 994 301 A (AGRIS JOSEPH) 30 November 1976 (1976-11-30) column 2, line 46 - column 3, line 18; figures 1,2	1-16
X	US 2001/034535 A1 (SCHULTZ LEONARD S) 25 October 2001 (2001-10-25) paragraph '0059! - paragraph '0062!; figures 14-22	1-16
X	US 5 743 853 A (LAUDERDALE ROBERT A) 28 April 1998 (1998-04-28) column 1, line 36 - column 2, line 19; figure 1	1-9
A		15
X	WO 01/49194 A (PEARL TECHNOLOGY HOLDINGS LLC) 12 July 2001 (2001-07-12) abstract; figures 1,8A-F	1
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*G\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 July 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

23/07/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 950 633 A (LYNCH RICHARD J ET AL) 14 September 1999 (1999-09-14) column 3, line 49 - line 51 column 4, line 5 - line 8; figures 2,3 -----	1-16
X	US 6 102 924 A (KOBREN MYLES S ET AL) 15 August 2000 (2000-08-15) abstract; figures 4,5 -----	1-5

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## Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: <sup>17</sup>  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

### Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No  
PCT/BR2004/000054

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3994301	A	30-11-1976	NONE	
US 2001034535	A1	25-10-2001	US 6520953 B1 US 6096026 A AU 9499098 A WO 9915084 A1	18-02-2003 01-08-2000 12-04-1999 01-04-1999
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US 5950633	A	14-09-1999	NONE	
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